Expansion programmes of Bombay Telephones for Eastern Suburbs

1460. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the future programme of expansion and provision of new facilities to the subscribers in the eastern suburbs of Bombay of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): The expansion of 18,200 lines & 22,000 lines has been planned for the year 1988-89 and 1989-90 respectively, in the Eastern suburbs of Bombay. All new facilities planned for Bombay, like Automatic Message Accounting, Radio Paging System and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services will also be provided to these subscribers.

New telephone Exchange at Kurla in Bombay

1461. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no Telephone Exchange at Kurla in Bombay;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Kurla area has to be serviced by the Ghatkopar Telephone Exchange; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to set up a new telephone exchange at Kurla in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir. There is no telephone exchange at Kurla at present.

(b) Presently, Kurla area is served by the Exchanges at Vile Parle, Bandra and Ghatkopar.

(c) Land for telephone exchange at Kurla has just been acquired. Plans for building construction are under formulation. A new digital-electronic exchange of suitable capacity has been planned at Kurla during the 8th Five Year Plan period.

Telephone Exchange at Bhandup, Bombay

1462. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a necessity of a new telephone exchange at Bhandup in Bombay; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a necessity for a telephone exchange at Bhandup.

(b) Land acquisition proceedings are in progress for acquiring land for a telephone exchange building at Bhandup. An electronic exchange of suitable capacity has been planned during the 8th Five Year Plan period.

Demand for new electronic exchange in Bombay

1463. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at Dr. Gopalrao Deshmuh Marg (Peddar Road) at Bombay there is a plot of land belonging to Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that there is a great demand for a new electronic telephone exchange in this area as there is no spare capacity in Gamdevi Exchange; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.